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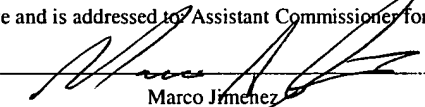
PATENT
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Marco Jimenez

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Akira KOGUCHI

Serial No.: 09/611,635

Filing Date: July 7, 2000

For: CONTAINER HANDLING SYSTEM FOR
SUBSTRATE PROCESSING APPARATUS
AND METHOD OF HANDLING
CONTAINERS

Examiner: J. Shapiro

Group Art Unit: 3651

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the restriction requirement dated September 21, 2001.

Applicants hereby elect Group I (claims 1-15), without traverse. Applicants expressly reserve their right under 35 U.S.C. §121 to file divisional applications directed to the nonelected subject matter during the pendency of this application, or an application claiming priority from this application.

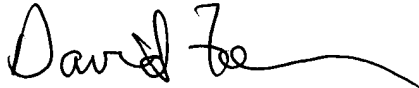
Applicants request examination of the elected subject matter on the merits.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this

document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. 19937-20018.00. However, the Assistant Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Dated: October 22, 2001

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
David L. Fehrman
Registration No. 28,600

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